

[Test] Weekly eNews 10 June 2021



Diocese of St Edmundsbury & Ipswich <communications@cc>

To: Leonie Ryle

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There is still plenty of time to join our campaign 'What do you find through church?' which has already connected with 34,000 people on Facebook and Instagram. We want to encourage people to find out more about the work of the church in their local communities and you can join in at any time over the summer, get started and find out more [here](#).

Volunteers' Week 2021

According to research by Community Action Suffolk, 1 in 5 people volunteered during the pandemic which equates to 113,000 people in Suffolk, 78% of which said they planned to continue helping those in need after lockdown. During the early stages of the pandemic our diocese was a partner in the 'Home but Not Alone' scheme and we supported at least 80 locations across Suffolk and we thank you for getting involved. Here are just a few examples of the great things you all do - taken from our Facebook feeds in just the last three days:

- The Revd Alan Forsdike baked scones for a Mothers' Union tea.
- The Revd Canon Sharron Coburn and her team held their first ever Repair and Share shop, cooking 20 hot meals, repairing bikes and weeding the garden.
- A group from the Hive did some bug hunting in Bradfield St George churchyard.
- A group hosted East Bergholt Open Gardens to raise funds for their church re-roofing project.
- Graham Miles reached out to many people in his role as Rural Agricultural Chaplain for Suffolk.
- St Augustine's Church sent out Blessing Bags and much needed snacks to the vaccination team in Trinity Park supporting their huge effort to vaccinate 200,000 people in five months.

The list could go on! We would like to say a massive thank you for all that you do in our parish churches and for the support you give to our communities.

Thank you Day 4 July 2021



Thank you day is supported by hundreds of organisations including the Church of England, with the aim of bringing people together and bridging divides, to help build a kinder, closer, and more connected society. There are many ways to get involved including: parkrun events, thank you picnic brunch, the UK's Power Hour litter pick, street parties or join the BB-Thank-Q the nation's biggest ever Cook Out led by Levi Roots. You decide! Share friendship, food and fun to say thank you with your neighbours and community. To find out more please click [here](#). Every school is also invited to get involved by holding a Thank You Day assembly and creating a piece of a Charlie Mackesy's giant national thank you card! All the resources are available to download [here](#).

In addition there are £1000 grants to bring your Thank You Day to life! Virgin Media O2 have launched the Together Fund – £500,000 for community projects that help bring people together. If you would like to apply for a grant the closing date is Monday 14 June, please apply [here](#).

Suffolk's Heroes Awards to celebrate Suffolk Day 2021: Suffolk MPs have launched Heroes awards and you can email nominations to jo.churchill.mp@parliament.uk. Nominations close at 10.00am on 17 June 2021 and will be announced on Suffolk Day, 21 June. More information is available [here](#).

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Resources for local churches coming out of Covid-19

As we have come to realise, there are no simple 'roadmaps' out of Covid-19 for churches. Timeframes move, expectations change, surprises continue to, well, surprise us, but Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and for ever and our confidence rests in being in his company, shaped and directed by him through his Holy Spirit as we move forward. Please find below a website page offered as a resource for those whose role it is to reflect, plan and pray as we move forward. It is necessarily an evolving document and if you have something important to add that may help others, please get in touch with helen.smith@cofesuffolk.org.

[Resources for local churches](#) | Weblink

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Departures in Stewardship: Meanwhile, Lee Jukes, Stewardship Manager is leaving the Diocese to move back to the north of England. Lee says *"I have been fortunate to meet many amazing people, especially the church volunteers who keep the wheels of the church turning. Thank you for all that you do and for giving generously of your time to engage with what can at times be a difficult subject to broach - stewardship!"* After Lee leaves us on 17 June please email [Julie Podd](#) (general stewardship and giving advice) and [Beccy Hills](#) (Fundraising) or [Gary Peverley](#) (any other enquiries) until we recruit Lee's successor.

Events

Bishops' Summer School 2021: The Gospel of John

St Edmundsbury Cathedral

Wednesday 21 - Friday 23 July daily 2.00pm - 5.00pm

What would you say to your closest friends, your nearest and dearest, the night before you died? What would you do? How would you be? Maybe more important for Christians is to know what Jesus would say, do and be when he knew he was about to die. Well, we have an account, given to us in the Gospel of John, Chapters 13 to 17. It's also where Jesus unpacks what it means to follow him and along with the Sermon on the Mount is Jesus' most prolonged and substantial piece of teaching in the gospels. But it takes some unpacking and understanding.

Please join Bishop Mike to unwrap the gift of John 13 to 17, there will be teaching, conversation, and refreshments. Each of the sessions can stand alone so don't worry if you can't make all three. And they will also be recorded if you want to watch one or more of the sessions later. This is the first of what the Bishops anticipate will be an annual Summer school looking at some aspect of Scripture or theology.

Click [here](#) to sign up and if you would like more information, please contact Claire Cachelin; clairecachelin@stedscathedral.org

Five Ways to Survive and Thrive 2021 NEW

16 June (10.00 - 11.00am and 2.00 - 3.00pm)

How are you doing? CPAS polls reveal that many leaders continue to feel a combination of exhausted, hopeful and overwhelmed. Not surprising. It has been a long and demanding 15 months. This webinar led by James Lawrence, Leadership Principal at CPAS, explores how to use the summer season for restoration ahead of the autumn term. Book [here](#).

Exploring healthcare chaplaincy

Four half-day sessions: 30 September, 21 October, 11 November 2 December
Online

Join this course if you are thinking about volunteering within a pastoral, spiritual and religious healthcare setting. Led by Jacqueline Watson (Non-religious Chaplain) and the Revd Meg Burton (Christian Chaplain) you will explore the topic including understanding how we use ourselves in healthcare chaplaincy, ethical principles and practices; developing professionalism, equality, diversity and Inclusion. For further information and application details please contact training@network-health.org.uk.

Notices

Please visit the Church of England page [here](#) and the Diocesan guidance page [here](#) for the most up to date information and guidance for churches during the Covid-19 pandemic.

Grants for church buildings: The Cornerstone Grants programme offers grants of between £10,000 and £50,000 towards the cost of major urgent structural repair projects as well as projects that introduce kitchens and accessible toilets to enable increased community use. The current application deadline is 5 July. For further information please visit [here](#). Smaller foundation grants are also available towards urgent maintenance works and small repairs, visit [here](#).

UK Church Architecture Awards 2021: Enter the awards if your church has had alterations or a rebuild in the last three years. There is also an award for the best young church architect. The closing date is Monday 28 June. For further information visit [here](#).

Return of Parish Finance and Annual Accounts Thank you to everyone who has completed their return (currently 48%). Please could you ensure that your parishes submit their returns as soon as figures are ready via <https://parishreturns.churchofengland.org>. Copies of annual accounts and reports should also be emailed to statistics@cofesuffolk.org at the earliest opportunity please. If you have any further queries, please email lorna.todd@cofesuffolk.org who will either assist or direct your enquiry to the most appropriate member of the diocesan office team to respond.

Return of bell ringing - technical support available: Like any piece of equipment after a long period without any use it should be ensured everything in the belfry is in good working order. If you do have a technical issue for which you require assistance, please contact the Suffolk Guild of Ringers, who will be happy to offer help to any tower within the Diocese. If your parish wishes to support their work you can join their affiliation scheme for a small annual donation. Please contact PRO@suffolkbells.org.uk or visit www.suffolkbells.org.uk.

Parish Giving Scheme (PGS): If your parish would like to join the PGS there is a new registration form to complete which you can find on our updated website page [here](#). Please complete and return to the office or pgs@cofesuffolk.org. If you need any PGS tokens to use in your church please contact pgs@cofesuffolk.org stating which parish and how many you would like. Our diocese PGS banners are available to lend to parishes and if you would like to book one out please email pgs@cofesuffolk.org with the dates required. For general information about joining the PGS please visit www.parishgiving.org.uk or email: pgs@cofesuffolk.org.

vacancies

[Part-time Finance Assistant](#) | St Matthew, All Saints and Triangle, Ipswich | Closing Date: 17 June 2021

[Cambridge Team Lead | Hope into Action UK](#) | Interview date: 9 July.

[Family and Children's Worker](#) | St James', Nayland

Three posts: Operations Manager, Worship and Creative Pastor and Student Pastor | River Church | for all details please click [here](#).

A great opportunity to serve the wider community: We currently have over 10 chaplains from different Christian denominations and we would love more. If you are interested in becoming a police chaplain (lay or ordained) and being linked to a police station, please contact archdeacon.jeanette@cofesuffolk.org.

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